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IF receives FLC Technology Transfer award

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — An Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate team has been named winner of the 2003 Federal Laboratory Consortium Northeast Region Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer

A team led by William K. McQuay of the directorate's Information Systems Division at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, was selected for the prestigious award based on its transfer of Collaborative Enterprise Environment (CEE) technology to the private sector. CEE technology is an application for information sharing among decision makers.

CEE was transferred to Ball Aerospace Technology Corp., which commercialized the technology under the name Knowledge Kineticstm. Knowledge Kinetics has been installed at more than 65 government, academic, and commercial locations.

"KnowledgeKinetics is being employed in pilot programs within Air Force Materiel Command as part of the Aeronautical Enterprise Knowledge Management program," said Frank Hoke, chief of the directorate's Technology Transfer Office. "For example, in one program on avionics systems, KnowledgeKinetics was used for knowledge capture, implementation of distributed collaboration for participants and their processes with workflow, and to automate interfaces to legacy data bases."

"The time required to accomplish the recurring avionics status report for this task was reduced from four months to 30 minutes with KnowledgeKinetics," Hoke said. "Similarly, AFRL is using the product to help its geographically dispersed directorates to work as an integrated product team for the development of new science and technology."

The Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer is the nationwide network of federal laboratories that provides the forum to develop strategies and opportunities for linking the laboratory mission technologies and expertise with the marketplace. It was organized in 1974 and formally chartered by the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 to promote and to strengthen technology transfer nationwide. Today, more than 700 major federal laboratories and centers and their parent departments and agencies are FLC members.

The technology transfer award is given annually to recognize outstanding laboratory employees who have successfully transferred federally developed technology into the commercial marketplace. The award was presented during an Oct. 2 luncheon at the FLC Northeast/Midwest Regional Meeting in New York City. @